

RIDOT Director Peter Alviti with Gene Valicenti on WPRO – July 29, 2021

Caller Questions from July 22, 2021

1. Peter from Massachusetts: Asked that someone pick up the dead deer on I-195 East at the East Providence/Massachusetts line

Once Peter's call came in, our Maintenance crews immediately removed the deer even before the show was over. If other motorists see similar issues that may impact our roadways, they can call our Maintenance Dispatch line at 222-2378.

2. Dave from Providence: Concerned that the temporary light at the closed Reservoir Avenue Railroad Bridge in Providence hadn't been installed yet

Traffic at this location has been a long-standing issue independent of our project. The temporary traffic signal we agreed to install by the end of this week will be just that: temporary during construction and temporary as it will only help but not solve all ongoing traffic issues.

The bridge itself has been closed for nearly one year. Since that time, we have completed design and started work to build a new bridge, with a goal of opening it before the end of the year.

This schedule is Amtrak dependent as they dictate the amount of work we can undertake and the timing of it as our bridge crosses over their property. We can only work when it is safe to do so, and we cannot rush to build a new bridge possibly jeopardizing the safety of our workers and eventually the motoring public who will ultimately utilize the new bridge.

3. Joe from North Kingstown: Asked that we address the manhole covers on Route 2 in East Greenwich, particularly on the northbound lane from the Beacon Diner to Frenchtown Road

The Town of East Greenwich is working with National Grid to get their sewer manhole covers on Route 2 adjusted to grade as soon as possible. Joe can follow up with the Town at 886-8618.

4. Bobby from East Providence: Thinks the Taunton Avenue traffic signal in East Providence is backing up traffic on Route 195 East all the way back to Gano Street in Providence

This signal is owned by the City of East Providence, so we asked that they fix the signal and adjust the timings, offering our assistance as necessary. They responded they would and that they'd also let us know if they needed any support.

5. Jim from East Greenwich: Wants the speed bump at the Stony Lane Bridge in North Kingstown fixed

I have driven over this bridge, and at moderate speeds, I haven't experienced any issues. Yet, based upon Jim's calls, we have been working to improve the pavement here. Weather permitting, this should be addressed within the next few weeks.

Caller Question from a Previous Show

1. Ed from Chepachet: Shared his drainage concerns on Route 44 (Putnam Pike) between Jackson Schoolhouse Road and Lake Drive in Glocester

Our staff met with Ed, and although he does not like where the water is going, we do not have any plans to change the drainage system in the area as the existing culvert pipe, which is clear and flowing, has been in place 50+ years.

Contact Us

- Call RIDOT for potholes, litter, debris in roadway at [222-2378](tel:222-2378)
- Website link to Gene's show: www.ridot.net/news
- Call weekdays from 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. [222-2450](tel:222-2450) or Email for help: help@ridot.net
- Website for help: www.ridot.net/help
- Road kill – DEM – 222-3070 ([recently killed deer only](#)). Otherwise call RIDOT at 222-2378
- Bike Path issues: DEM – 222-3070 for East Bay and Blackstone bikeways. Otherwise, the city or town in which the path is located is the proper contact.
- National Grid [1-800-322-3223](tel:1-800-322-3223)
- RIPTA [784-9500](tel:784-9500)
- MBTA [1-800-392-6100](tel:1-800-392-6100)/[617-222-3200](tel:617-222-3200)

